

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7443

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT VELASCO WANTS SECRETARY KISSINGER TO VISIT
PERU

1. YESTERDAY, DURING PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT VELASCO
DISCUSSED AWARDING OF NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AND SAID HE WANTED
TO SEE SECRETARY KISSINGER VISIT PERU. EMBASSY'S INFORMAL
TRANSLATION OF Q AND A FOLLOWS:

2. QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THE AWARDING OF THE NOBEL
PEACE PRIZE TO SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND VIETNAMESE
ADVISOR LE DUC THO?

ANSWER: THE COMMITTEE THAT DECIDED THAT THEY MERITED THE
NOBEL PEACE PRIZE MUST HAVE HAD SOUND REASONS FOR ITS CHOICE.
BOTH, I THINK, HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE BUILDING OF PEACE IN
THE FAR EAST, AND SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS ALSO ACHIEVED AN
IMPROVEMENT IN UNITED STATES RELATIONS WITH BOTH THE SOVIET
UNION AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

(GLANCING AT FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR) WE HOPE, THEREFORE,
THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER WILL INVITE THE SECRETARY OF STATE
TO VISIT PERU, WHERE HE WILL BE ABLE TO GET A FIRST-HAND LOOK
AT OUR REVOLUTION. (ADDRESSING HIMSELF TO THE PRESS) WHY DON'T
YOU ASK HIM IF HE IS GOING TO INVITE KISSINGER?

FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA FLOR: GENERAL (VELASCO), THERE IS A
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UNITED NATIONS RUMOR ABOUT A POSSIBLE LATIN AMERICAN TRIP BY

THE SECRETARY OF STATE BUT IT IS ONLY A POSSIBILITY.

PRESIDENT VELASCO: OKAY, BUT IT SHOULD NOT ONLY BE A VISIT TO
ONE COUNTRY; LET HIM (KISSINGER) COME TO MANY AND SOAK IN THE
REALITY OF LATIN AMERICA.

BELCHER

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